PRAISE FOR SALT WATER PLAN

LET'S HAVE IT SOON, SAYS CHIEF CROKER.

The Mayor's Scheme for Guarding the City Against Fire Meets With General Approval-Fire Underwriters Invited to Talk It Over With City Officials.

There was general rejoicing among property owners, fire underwriters and others concerned in the guarding of the city against fire yesterday over the an-nouncement that Mayor McClellan was pumping stations to the city's fire fighting more popular than ever the of auxiliary salt water mains and auxiliary casion to study the safeguarding of the city from fire agreed in giving the Mayor unstinted praise for his broad foresight and appreciation of the city's opportunity.

The Mayor sent a letter yesterday to the president of the Board of Fire Underwriters, William Ogden, enclosing the letter of Monday to the Fire and Water Commissioners and the Borough President, and asking that the Board of Fire Underwriters ap- resembling fabrics made on point a committee to confer with the Mayor and his Commissioners next Tuesday. The

William Ogden, Esq., Chairman, New York
Board of Fire Underwriters, 32 Nassau
street, New York cits;
DEAR SIR: Permit me to call your attention to the enclosed copy of a letter which I have sent to the Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, the Fire Commissioner and the President of the Borough of Manhattan, inviting their aid in the consideration of a plan for an independent system of water mains to give additional fire protection to the business section of the city.

protection to the business.

In taking up this subject, I would like to have the advice of the Board of Fire Underwriters, and will esteem it a favor if the board will appoint a committee to confer with me at your convenience. I would suggest Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 2 o'clock P M., if that hour will be agreeable to your representative. Respectfully. New York, Feb. 16 McCLELLAN, Mayor.

It is known that the Board of Fire Underwriters have had in mind such a plan as that which the Mayor is now considering. They have been preparing it against a day which they felt was sure to come, when the city should be aroused to a sense of its danger and its opportunity to minimize that danger. They were afraid that the average citizen could only be made to see the need for a broad scientific provision, of the sort the Mayor now advocates, by such a conflagration, right here at home, as that which visited Baltimore. It was said last night that the Board of Fire Underwriters would put all its experience and that of its members at the disposal of the Mayor, along with its official encouragement

Charles Sooysmith, who has had great experience in just such problems of engineering as are presented by the plan of establishing salt water mains, with pumping stations throughout the business part of Manhattan borough, expressed the warmest approval of the Mayor's action

"A number of years ago the Worthington pump people worked out a plan with purposes which ran parallel to those which the Mayor has now. In London there is a service which delivers water to private establishments at high pressure to small turbines which furnish power for manufacturing establishments. It is also available for fire purposes.

"The Worthington sought to get a franchise for such a concern with the idea of furnishing water to small concerns for manufacturing purposes, and also for adding to the city's fire fighting equipment. This was eighteen or twenty years ago. They intended to go into it as a private enterprise, and to use subsoil water drawn from artesian wells.

The plan fell through at the time because would be quite impracticable as a private enterprise now, because of the extended use of electrical power, which has superseded any field that water power might have occupied had the plan been carried

"Moreover, no one who has not had reason to interest himself in the matter knows how thoroughly the subsoil water of Manhattan Island has been taken up. There are concerns constantly at war with one another fighting for the subsoil water of their neighborhoods. One establishment goes down forty feet lower than its neighbors and cuts off the supply from most of them. Then one of the neighbors, two blocks away, goes down another forty feet and there is

no end to the boring. *But there is no limit to the quantity of water that can be drawn from the North and East rivers. Of course, it is salt water and would corrode ordinary pipes. Without going into details it is enough to say of any objection on that score that any cor-rosion could be forestalled by the use of es-pecially lined pipes, copper, galvanized insecially lined pipes, copper, galvanized iron r enamel. The method is not of importance enough to let it stand for a mo tance enough to let it stand for a moment in the face of the plan itself, which is one that the city must come to sooner or later. Work should be begun at once, as the Mayor has most wisely indicated.

"I foresee at once an objection that the

installation of these independent mains would cause a general tearing up of the streets. It need do nothing of the sort. streets. It need do nothing of the sort. This plan is not one to be carried out in a few months or weeks. It is to be a permanent feature of the city, to stand as long as the city stands. There should be at the outset a large, elastic plan, providing for these mains and pumping stations throughout the district which is to be protected by them. The improvements may be then carried out in conjunction with other improvements.

provements.

"If a street is to be repayed, let the salt water mains be laid in that street at the same time the new preement is put in. If there are to be additional subways, let the work of digging the tunnels and of lowering or raising cross-street sewers include the installation of salt water mains. Include the installation of salt water mains. There is always something of the sort going on in the city somewhere, and with proper supervision the laying of the salt water mains can be so carried on that they will be installed without any serious inconvenience to the users of the streets and as fast as laid will become available for the users of the Fire Department." uses of the Fire Department.

Mr. Sooysmith said that the plans should be so elastic that, if it should appear at any time that the site of a proposed pump-ing station might advantageously be moved ing station might advantageously be moved a few blocks up or down town in order to accommodate the progress of laying mains to atunnel, or street paving or surface track laying operations, the change might be made without interfering with the general scheme to be adopted. Mr. Sooysmith said that the proposition to get the power for the number of the proposition to get the power for the pumping stations from the electric plants of the surface, elevated and subway railroads was a most interest ing and praiseworthy one. There are enough of these and they are so widely separated that no one conflagration could possibly put all of them out of action before the fire was brought under control,

Fire Chief Croker, who is not an engineer, and is consequently limited in his apprexiation of the tremendous possibilities of the use of the traction companies' power plants, said yesterday that he thought the city ought to have its own power stations. But wherever the power was to be derived, he said, he was for the auxiliary mains and the pumping stations. He said:

"A somewhat similar system to the one now being urged is in use in Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, Boston and Philadelphia. None of these cities has the advantage that we have with the two big rivers, one on each side of the city, for ten miles. Ever since I have had any authority in this department, I have urged the adoption of



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Coarse Crashes in Solid Colors, Linen Zephyrs, Linen Etamines, Linen Duck Suitings, Pharaoh Linen, Linen Dress Bagging, Coarse Embroidered Linens.

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If the mercury won't fly up perhaps you'll fly down South. Spring clothing ready to take

along; mixture suits, flannels, light weight overcoats. Winter things to take you there.

Boys' spring clothing here too.

ROGERS, PEET & COMPANY. 265 Broadway, opposite City Hall, and 7 and 9 Warren St. 842 Broadway, cor. 18th, and 140 to 145 4th Ave. 1260 Broadway, cor. 32d, and 54 West 33d St.

the system. We ought not to wait ten, twenty or fifty million dollar fire to teach us the need for it. "I can see no chance for such a fire to

start. But such fires do get started, and it is just because we do not see how they start that we have not now the provision to meet them. The plans which I have brought to the attention of the commisgioners and fire underwriters in this city hereofore have included three pumping sta tions below Fourteenth street, one out at the furthest projection of the island into the East River, one at an opposite point on the North River and one at the Baton the North River and one at the Bat-tery. With water from pumping stations forced up through standpipes in the big downtown buildings, without our having to be afraid of exhausting our supply by the most lavish use of water, we would be in a position to fight a fire running in front of as hard a wind as ever blew.

"We are dependent now upon our quickness in smothering every fire that starts before it gets any headway. I believe that the department, as it stands to-day, is the best department in the world for just that job. But there are a dozen things that might prevent us from doing our best under present conditions. I have seen the time within two years when I could not in any possible way get enough engines up to a burning building to cover it properly.
"Sometimes it was the subway diggings

that prevented us, sometimes it was snow and slush. Sometimes, as at the Park avenue fire, we had both of these to contend with. People who were inside fire lines then remember seeing whole engine com-panies out in the slush helping the horses roll their engines along foot by foot. That was a bad spot, but it was only bad for a was a bad spot, but it was only bad for a limited space. Suppose those same conditions covered a wide belt of the city, as they might in a blizzard. Where would we be then if we had no pumping stations with independent pipe lines to depend on?

"It will take a long time to complete this thing, and the quicker we get at it the quicker we will make this city much more attractive as a place to invest money than attractive as a place to invest money than

attractive as a place to invest money than it has been. I'm mighty glad to see it getting under way in my time."

Commissioner Hayes was every bit as enthusiastic as Chief Croker. When he reached his office yesterday morning he found the Mayor's letter awaiting him. It was not yet time, he said, for him to go into details of the plans, but the general scheme was one to which he could not give too much support. He would be right at too much support. He would be right at the Mayor's elbow with every aid that the Fire Department could give to the plan,

A complete scheme of utilizing river water under high pressure for extinguishing fires was worked out several years ago ing fires was worked out several years ago by an engineer employed by a group of business houses uptown. He prepared plans for the building of a pumping station on the North River at the expense of this association of business men, which would supply the sprinklers in their buildings with salt water, as well as furnish it through

stand pipes.

The plans involved an expense which seemed out of proportion to the com-paratively small body of men who were interested in them, and have been held under abeyance for that reason. One of the men concerned in preparing the plans said last night that if the expense of carrysaid last night that if the expense of carrying them out had, been shared by all the business establishments through a broad belt of the city, it would have been regarded as merely nominal. These plans will probably be laid before the Mayor and his advisers within a few days.

CLEVELAND USES RIVER WATER. Streams Can Be Thrown 500 Feet From the Top of a 16 Story Building.

CLEVELAND, Feb. 16.-The use of special water pipes as an effective aid in suppressing conflagrations which get beyond the control of fire departments has been put control of fire departments has been put to practical tests in this city. A beginning was made ten years ago, when lines of eight and ten inch wrought iron pipe were to be will take the negative side.

The Mananager Store

Men's **Overcoats**

Large Sizes Small Prices

If eighty large men would like to feel warmer today than they did yesterday, we have these fine Winter Overcoats in their sizes, at gratifying reductions.

And just remember, that in buying an overcoat at this time, you are providing a practically new coat for next winter, besides having the satisfaction of wearing it for six weeks more this

At \$8.50, from \$10 and \$12 Thirty-eight Oxford and black Cheviot Overcoats, in sizes 42, 44, 46.

At \$10, from \$15 Twenty-seven all-wool Oxford Cheviot Overcoats, in sizes 44 and 46. At \$13.50, from \$20

Fifteen Oxford Overcoats, in sizes 44 and 46. Second floor, Fourth ave.

Letter Books and Presses

Our Commercial Stationery Store had to give up its quarters on Broadway. But if you want to buy first-class office supplies, you'll follow it to the Basement of our Main Store and save money for your trouble. For in-

Letter Books of 500 pages at 50c and \$1; 700 pages, \$1.25; 1000 pages, \$1.60.

Best Japanese Letter Books, 500 pages, at \$1.25; 1000 pages, \$2.25. Pridmore Letter Presses, 10x12 in., \$5.50; 10x15 in., \$6.50.

And this special offering of Carbon Paper at \$1.10, for box of 100 Sheets

Typewriter Ribbons at 50c. Stenographers' Note Books at 33c, Commercial Stationery Store, Base-ment-just to the right from Ninth street elevators.

IOHN WANAMAKER

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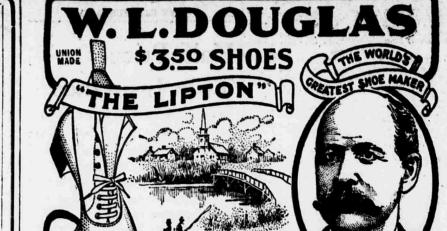
aid from the Cuyahoga River up through

Superior street to the public square. In later years these lines were supplemented by others covering a large part of the busi-ness section of the east and west sides of ness section of the east and west sides of the river and through the manufacturing districts of the flats; and the system will doubtless be extended from year to year until the limit of its utility is reached. Stationed in the river are two powerful fireboats. Whenever a fire of a threatening nature is reported one of the fireboats connects with the iron pipes and awaits orders. Firemen connect lines of hose with also wait for special orders, for this service is not brought into play until the efforts of the fire engines to subdue or confine the fire are defeated and the fire laddies are compelled to abandon the interior of a building. From four to six lines of hose from the hydrants of the fire service pipes are trained upon the building, each nozzle held by three or four stout firemen. Then the chief presses a button, and immediately there is something doing at both ends of the service. The mighty pumps ends of the service. The mighty pumps of the fireboat force great volumes of water through the pipes at a pressure of 250 pounds to the square inch, the hose lines twist and squirm like live anacondas, and immediately the irresistible two-andand immediately the irresistible two-and-a-half inch streams are tearing through the building with a force as destructive as the fire itself. Not even the partitions within fair range can stand the impact, and the flood of water quickly drowns out the flames. The service of one fireboat utilized in this way is equal to that of eight or ten engines, and frequently accom-plishes results in restricting a dangerous irre that a score of engines could not equal. fire that a score of engines could not equal This service is also being applied to the skyscraper buildings, which are equipped with stands of pipe running from basement to roof. In the event of fire in the building, or any other near by which it is desired to reach, the pipe in the building is connected with the hydrant of a fire service pipe, and the pressure from the fireboat is then turned on. Two-and-a-half inch streams have been thrown 500 feet from the top of the sixteen story Williamson Build-ing. A little further extension of the sys-tem in the business section will enable the tem in the business section will enable the department, with its twenty-eight engines, including the two fireboats, to protect the city from any such conflagrations as those which have devastated Chicago. Boston and Baltimore. It is now proposed to extend the special fire service pipe lines to the scores of great mahufactories on the Lake front, the water to be supplied from the pew Kirtland street, numping station Lake front, the water to be supplied from the new Kirtland street pumping station of the waterworks department, which will be a great safeguard to that part of the city. The pumping station has reserve power at all times sufficient to operate the system to its fullest efficiency.

The possibilities of this defensive auxiliary service have attracted the attention of the department heads in a number of large

fire department heads in a number of large cities. Philadelphia has adopted it extensively, and has undoubtedly the best service of the kind in the country. Buffalo and Detroit are almost abreast of Cleveland in this respect. It is the frequently expressed opinion of the most experienced the fabroary who have investigated the subpressed opinion of the most experienced fire fighters who have investigated the sub-ject that such auxiliaries for subduing dangerous fires as the special pipe systems in Cleveland and the other cities named, doubled, at least, the efficiency of their departments at the minimum of cost.

College Debate on the "Open Shop." Cornell and Columbia in their fifth annual debate at Ithaca next month are to discuss this question: "Resolved, That the efforts of employers to overthrow



The leading styles originate in Brockton, the manufacturing centre of men's fine shoes in this country. tyles Originated by My Expert Model Maker Are Copied Everywhere.

Styles Originated by My Expert Model Maker Are Copied Everywhere.

W. L. Douglas \$3.50 shoes have by their excellent style, easy fitting, and superior wearing qualities, achieved the largest sale of any \$3.50 shoe in the world. They are just as good as those that cost you \$5 to \$7—the only difference is the price. If I could take you into my factory at Brockton, Mass., the largest in the world under one roof making men's fine shoes, and show you the infinite care with which every pair of Douglas shoes is made, you would realize why W. L. Douglas \$3.50 shoes are the best shoes produced anywhere.

If I could show you the difference between the shoes made in my factory and those of other makes, you would understand why Douglas \$3.50 shoes cost more to make, why they hold their shape, fit better, wear longer, and are of greater intrinsic value than any other \$3.50 shoe on the market to-day.

There is a great difference between wholesale and retail prices in shoes. You pay only one profit on shoes made in my factory and sold direct to you through my own stores in the principal cities. The result is, you get better shoes for the price than are retailed elsewhere.

My own secret process of tanning the bottom soles produces more flexible.

My own secret process of tanning the bottom soles produces more flexible and longer-wearing leather than any other tannage.

EVERY GENTLEMAN SHOULD HAVE THREE PAIRS OF SHOES TO DRESS HIS FEET PROPERLY ON ALL OCCASIONS. He should have a pair of Viscolized waterproof, heavy double-sole shoes for wet weather; a pair suitable for pleasant days, and a pair of Patent Leather Button shoes for dress. Don't pay \$15 to \$18 for these three pairs; you can get as much style, comfort and service in three pairs of Douglas shoes for \$10.50.

We L. Douglas High Gracio

Boys' Shoes \$2 & \$1.75.

Thave the largest men's \$10.50 shoes Mail Order Patents of the world. No matter where you

Corona Colt is the highest grade patent eather made. That Douglas uses it proves there is value in Douglas \$3.50 ishoes.

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Simplicity wedded to wood beauty finds perfect expression in the Sideboards, Closets, Tables and Chairs made of beautifully veined mahogany, and reflecting the purity of old Colonial furniture.

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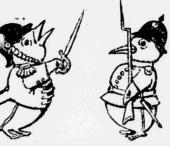
34th Street, West, Nos. 155-157 "MINUTE FROM BROADWAY."

HE 500 Winter Suits reduced from \$25, \$22, \$20 and \$18 to \$12.50 are such excellent bargains that they cannot last long. Later on plenty of people will be paying \$20 for Serge and Cheviot Suits no different in any respect from those we now offer at \$12.50. Winter Overcoats too, at \$12.50 reduced from very much higher prices.

Why not anticipate, and save money? One man bought 10 suits.

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LINGERING ARMORY SITE TEN-ANTS BUDGE AT ZERO.

Four Weeks Notice Made No Impression, but Pulling Off Roofs Had an Immediate Effect-Some Lived Rent Free as Long as Circumstances Permitted.

The city, represented by a firm of contractors, played a game of freezeout yesterday with some of the tenants in the houses in the block bounded by East Twentyfifth and Twenty-sixth streets on the west side of Lexington avenue. The tenants thought they were calling a bluff and refused to move out when ordered, until the city showed its hand. Then they got cold feet in a hurry and with the contractors' men tearing out their windows and removing the roofs from their domiciles they carted away their household goods with the mercury hovering about zero.

The new Sixty-ninth Regiment armory is to be built on the site where the house destroying began yesterday, and on Jan. 19 everybody living there was notified to get out before Feb. 15. A few planned to do so. The majority didn't. They thought that nothing would be done for at least two or three weeks after that date and that it would be a shame not to live rent free for a few weeks. That is, those who had paid their rent until the 15th thought that. The rest hadn't paid their rent for the last month, because they knew they would be turned out anyway.

All hands got another notice on Monday to get out in twenty-four hours, and some obeyed that. The rest didn't, and yesterday a contractor and a big force of men came around and began tearing things down. There were kicks long and loud from the tenants. Representatives of the J. D.

Murphy Contracting Company and of the sub-contractor who has the job of tearing down the houses explained that Murphy had to have the armory done on a certain date and that it would cost him a \$50 fine for every additional day needed to complete the building.

That didn't impress the tenants. But

GET OUT OF THAT MEANT GET. I they were impressed when they saw men with crowbars begin to tear out their with crowbars begin to tear out their windows, knock down and cart away their railings and rip their roofs off. Then the men who run the moving vans got hurry orders and all day yesterday there were between half a dozen and a dozen vans removing household effects while laborers tore away the roofs above them.

The houses on Lexington avenue were tackled by the house wreckers yesterday It didn't take the dwellers in Twenty-fifth and I wenty-sixth streets long to see what was coming for them and to pack up and get out too. Auctioneers' red flags hung on some of the houses and second hand furniture men who swarmed into the district of the second hand furniture men who swarmed into the district of the second hand furniture men who swarmed into the district of the second hand trict did a rushing business.

trict did a rushing business. In one or two cases the wholesale eviction caused some hardships. Dr. M. B. Parounagian of 64 Lexington avenue says he has tried unsuccessfully for the last three days to find another house. His wife is recovering from an illness that bordered upon pneumonia. Yesterday morning laborers began to tear down the railing of the front stoop. He told the laborers that if they wrecked his house and endangered his sick wife he would lay out some of them. The doctor has a convincing way of talking. doctor has a convincing way of talking. The laborers took a vacation while they

hunted up the boss.

The latter told the doctor that the windows would not be ripped out until the woman was removed. The doctor hustled woman was removed. The doctor hustled around and got quarters in a boarding house a few doors up the avenue. Then he got an auctioneer to sell what he didn't want to take along and late in the afternoon his wife was taken away in a carriage.

Mrs. Mary Hogan, who had a boarding house at 68 Lexington avenue, said that all her boarders had left and that she hadn't been able to get another house on she to

been able to get another house on short notice. She was afraid that her boarders were lost forever and said she didn't even know where she was going to find quarters for the night. The residents in Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth streets won't have their houses torn down for a few days, but they were all at work packing up yes-terday. They seemed to be in a bad humor. Three policemen from the East Thirty-fifth street station were on duty while the wrecking was going on to see that the tenants didn't walk off with fixtures. They didn't have much to do, as the contractor's men kept pretty close watch of the tenants. One cop, however, felt that he had done his duty after he stopped two men who were carrying a range from one of the

ivellings.
"That ain't yours," declared the cop. "Yes it is," said the men who were carrying

"It ain't," said the cop. "Drop it!"
The men dropped it so hard that it flew



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The first step in the solution of the servant girl problem is a solution of Borax. Human nature is pretty much alike-we want to make work as easy and agreeable as possible.

The easiest way to wash things is to use BORAX. It softens hard city water and doubles its cleansing power.

When you lighten labor you lighten the heart. BORAX lightens labor.

Every good thing is imitated—even as Borax. Be mulish-kick if you don't get 20-MULE-TEAM BRAND-it's pure. Sold by Grocers and Druggists, 4, ½ and 1-lb. packages.

Send a s'amp for our wonferful little book, "MODERN MIRACLES," Pacific Coast Borax Co., New York, Chicago, San Francisco.



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OUR NEW CARPET AND RUG DEPARTMENT NOW OCCUples the entire top floor, which enables our patrons to have the finest studio light while making selections.

Our largest importation of artistic Persians and other Oriental Rugs has arrived in time for the opening of this department.

As we were over-shipped in carpet and other large sizes in Orientals, we are compelled to sell our stock at Eastern market quotations.

All short lengths of carpet are reduced in price one third. and also a large quantity of domestic rugs.

A wing on each floor devoted to Furniture at 1/3 off Regu-

Any of the above goods selected this week may be held for delivery until July 1st.

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Thump! Something heavy went down! Heavy Sack Suits. Many Fancy Cheviots and Worsteds formerly \$18, \$20

and \$22, dropped to \$12. Young Men's Suits from \$15 and \$18 to \$9.75.
Too good to last long at such prices. But they'll last long

as far as Wear goes. Hackett, Carhart & Co. Three
Broadway
Stores

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into about a hundred pieces and its value dropped with its fall to the worth of scrap "Tain't the value of the thing, anyway,"

"Tain't the value of the thing, anyway,"

"It's

mused the cop to console himself. "It's the principle."

The end of the block facing on Fourth avenue is not affected by the construction of the armory, as the building's site does not include that property. There is no talk of suits against the city.

GAFFNEY FREE OF INDICTMENT. Dock Case Against Gas House District Alderman Comes to Nothing.

The indictment against Alderman James E. Gaffney was dismissed yesterday by Recorder Goff upon personal application of District Attorney Jerome. Gaffney was president of the New York Constructing and Trucking Company, which leased for ten years the West Ninety-sixth stree pier and bulkhead while Charles F. Murphy was president of the Dock Board. He was accused of violating Section 1533 of the City Charter in that, while connected with City Charter in that, while connected with the concern which entered into a contract with the city he was a city official. Justice Bischoff decided in another case based on similar facts that his acts did not con-

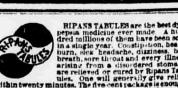
UNION PACIFIC

SOUTHERN PACIFIC SHORTEST LINE

Millions have been spent in the improvement of this line, and all human ingenuity has been adopted to protect its patrons against accident. The line is renowned for its fast trains and the general superiority of its service and equipment.

TOURIST SLEEPERS A SPECIALTY Inquire at 287 BROADWAY, NEW YORK CITY R. TENBROECK, G. E. A.





stitute an offence and dismissed the case